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1879

MINUTES

—OF THE—

FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

—OF THE—

GREENVILLE

Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

Mount Nebo Baptist Church,

BOND COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

September 5 and 6, 1879.

Next Meeting, Union Ave. Church, Litchfield, Ill., September 3, 1880.

GREENVILLE, ILL.
SUN PRINTING OFFICE, MAIN STREET BET. SECOND AND THIRD.
1879.

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GREENVILLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—NAME AND OF WHOM COMPOSED.

This body shall be known as the Greenville Baptist Association, and it shall be composed of messengers (who shall be members of the churches they represent) and all ordained ministers who shall be entitled to seats in the Association, but shall not be allowed to vote upon any question except when they are regular messengers. Each church shall be entitled to three messengers.

ARTICLE II.—OBJECT.

The object of this Association shall be to promote harmony among the churches, and to devise and recommend such measures as are designed to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom in the world.

ARTICLE III.—OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

The officers shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.

SECTION 1. The Moderator shall preside, and lead in all business of the body, and see that order and decorum are observed by every member.

SEC. 2. The Clerk shall keep minutes of the records and papers, and conduct its correspondence.

SEC. 3. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to the Association, keep an account of the same, and the object for which it is designed, and pay them out according to the order of the Association, and report the state of the treasury before the close of each session.

SEC. 4. The officers shall be chosen annually, by ballot, and shall continue in office until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE IV.—ADMISSION OF NEW CHURCHES.

Churches wishing to be admitted into this union, may apply by letter and delegates, and on giving satisfactory evidence of their being sound in the faith, and correct in practice, may be received, and in token of the same the Moderator shall, in behalf of the Association, give their delegates the right hand of fellowship. No church shall be received into this Association until such church adopt written articles of faith.

ARTICLE V.—DELINQUENT CHURCHES AND MINISTERS.

If any church or minister depart from the faith of the gospel, or become disorderly in practice, on due proof thereof, and gospel admonition, the Association may drop the name of such church or minister from the minutes, and thus rid itself of all responsibility on account of the disorderly church or minisister.

ARTICLE VI.—CORRESPONDENCE.

This Association shall have the right to open and hold correspondence with other Associations agreeing with us in faith and practice, and the administration of the ordinances of the gospel.

ARTICLE VII.—ANNUAL MEETING AND INTRODUCTORY SERMON.

This Association shall meet annually at a place previously appointed, when an introductory sermon shall be preached by such a brother as the body may have appointed; the place of holding the Association, and preaching introductory sermon to be determined by private ballot.

ARTICLE VIII.—WITHDRAWAL OF CHURCHES.

We request any church becoming a member of this body not to withdraw without first asking permission.

ARTICLE IX.—AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting of the body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members.

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Minutes Greenville Baptist Association.

MORNING SESSION.

Mount Nebo Baptist Church, Bond County, Ill., Friday, September 5, 1879.

The Association met at 10 o'clock, as per adjournment last year, and after a season of devotional exercises, the introductory sermon was preached to a full house, by Rev. George Kline, of Greenville, from Jude 3: "It was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you, that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints"

After the sermon, the Moderator, Rev. J. R. Barbee, as by requirement, read the Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

Visiting brethern were cordially invited to seats.

The following committees were now appointed.

On Religious Exercises—Rev. J. H. Jones, William File, J. M. Ray, Wiley Clouse

On Order of Business—Lee Wait, W. L. Meisenheimer, G. Kline.

The hours of 9 o'clock in the morning and 3 o'clock in the afternoon were fixed for the opening of the sessions. Prayer by Rev. I. Irwin. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Friday 3 P. M.

The devotional exercises, led by Bro. John H. Jones, were spiritual and profitable. The Moderator in the chair. The committee on the order of business, through its chairman, Bro. Lee Wait, presented the following

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

(1) Reading of the letters of the churches. (2) Admission of new churches. (3) Election of officers. (4) Appointment of committees on various objects (5) Reception of corresponding letters and messengers from other Associations. (6) Report of Executive Mission Board. (7) Report on Denominational Literature. (8) Report on Temperance. (9) Report on Sunday Schools. (10) Report on Home and Foreign Missions. (11) Report on Education. (12) Report on Resolutions. (13) Selection of place for next annual meeting. (14) Selection of preacher of annual sermon. (15) Miscellaneous business. (16) Adjournment.

Adopted.

CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS.

The following churches, when called on, reported, and their Messengers were enrolled as below:

Greenville—Rev. George Kline, Rev. J. B. White, Rev. W. D. H. Johnson.

Liberty—Rev. A. J. Sitton, J. M. Simpson, J. J. Bailey.

Litchfield, Union Ave.—W. L. Meisenheimer, Mrs. L. Mock, Mrs. Ellen Whiteside

Long Branch—Rev. J. H. Jones, Wm. Case, John W. Myers.

Mount Nebo—Wm. File, Jas. M. Ray, Wiley Clouse.

New Douglas—Samuel Alsop, Peter Deck, Samuel Sutton.

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Oakland—L. F. Holden, Luella Gleason.
Pocahontas—Lee Wait, Sisters M. H. Cason, M. E. Bridgewater.
Prairie Grove—Rev. J. R. Barbee, Geo. P. Jones, Joella Barbee.
Smith Grove—Jacob M. Harris, J. Rising, J. W. Harris.
Worden—George Viles.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. Levi Mitchell and Rev. I. Irwin, having been appointed tellers, proceeded to receive the votes for officers, announcing as the result the re-election of Rev. J. R. Barbee as Moderator, and Rev. George Kline as Clerk and Treasurer. Prof. J. B. White was appointed Assistant Clerk.

CORRESPONDING MESSENGERS.

Apple Creek Association—Rev. Levi Mitchell, Rev. I. Irwin, Rev. F. W. Rainey.
Edwardsville Association—Dr. E. R. Enos and wife.
Rehoboth Association—M. W. Nelson.
South District Association—A. F. Hart, Sister M. Harrington.

VISITORS.

Rev. Peter Long, Pocahontas; Rev. J. P. Hinkley, Litchfield; Mrs. Florence K. Houghton, Principal Almira College, Greenville, and many others, who, failing to send their names to the Clerk, are not mentioned.

COMMITTEES.

The Moderator appointed
On Denominational Literature—W. D. H. Johnson, J. B. White, J. M. Simpson.
Temperance—W. C. Harvey, L. F. Holden, Ellen Whiteside.
Sunday Schools—John H. Jones, William File, I. Irwin.
Home and Foreign Missions—J. B. White, L. Mitchell, W. L. Meisenheimer.
Education—Peter Deck, W. D. H. Johnson, George Kline.
Resolutions—Lee Wait, G. Kline, A. J. Sitton.
Preaching was announced by the Committee on Religious Exercises for the evening, by Rev. J. P. Hinkley, whose text was John 6:37. Prayer by Rev. L. Mitchell. Adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

SATURDAY, 9 A. M.

After a pleasant season of prayer and song, the Association entered on the transaction of business.

The query of Liberty Church, "Can this Association retain in its body churches that endorse the modern doctrine of sanctification or holiness?" was referred to a special committee composed of Rev. A. J. Sitton, Rev. L. Mitchell and George Kline.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

This committee offered the following resolution as their report, Bro. W. C. Harvey being chairman:

RESOLVED, That this Association recommend to the ministers and churches that they heartily co-operate in the Temperance work.

Enthusiastic remarks favoring the resolution were made by George Kline, Ellen Whiteside, Mrs. Mock, L. F. Holden, W. L. Meisenheimer, W. D. H. Johnson, W. F. Rainey, J. R. Barbee, W. C. Harvey and J. W. Harris, after which it was unanimously adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Bro. J. H. Jones, chairman, submitted the following:

Your committee are happy to be able to report an increased interest in the Sunday School work, and glad to say that our churches are earnestly engaged in it. We trust the good work will go on until every church is able to report a live Baptist Sunday school. We would suggest that one hour be given to the consideration of this work during this meeting.

After warm-hearted speeches by J. R. Barbee, J. W. Harris and others, the report was adopted. It was voted to devote from 9:30 to 10:30 Sunday morning to Sunday School interests.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE MISSION BOARD.

This was presented by Rev. Geo. Kline. It stated that the Board had met three times, but on account of the inclemency of last winter, and the failure to obtain such a man as was wanted for the time and points, nothing had been done except the voluntary missionary labor pledged at the last association. Through the voluntary labor by six ministers, fifty-six sermons had been preached in forty days, besides twenty-five prayer and other meetings held; also fifty-one families were religiously visited and seventy-five denominational tracts distributed. The voluntary labor was in several instances followed by compensated labor, which resulted, taken together, in twenty-one baptisms. Some of these labors were with churches not in our Association. One Sunday School was re-organized. There remain in the Treasurer's hands, J. W. Harris, $48.65. The Board received for advertising on Minutes cover $3.00, of which $2.00 were paid for tracts and $1.00 for Associational letter blanks, postage and stationery. The value of the voluntary labor, at $1.50 per day, is $60.00. The report was adopted without remarks.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

This report was read by the Clerk.

"Almira College," with its lovely grounds and substantial building, at Greenville, is admirably adapted, as a seminary home, for the instruction and equipment—mental, social and spiritual—of young ladies pursuing an education. With Mrs. Florence K. Houghton as Principal, and six competent and pious women as assistants, this institution offers rare attractions to the Baptists of the State seeking the advantages of thorough culture on reasonable terms.

The superior advantages offered by Shurtleff College, located at Upper Alton, Ills., to young men and boys, desirous of accurate scholarship, and excellent moral surroundings and influences, commend it to the patronage of all Baptists. A reduction in the tuition fees of the academical department goes into force this year. It should be the duty and the privilege of all who have the prosperity of Christ's cause at heart to encourage attendance on our own institutions of learning.

Remarks were made by J. R. Barbee, G. Kline and W. D. H. Johnson, in which they strongly recommended these institutions, and emphasized and illustrated the importance of their work.

Adopted.

REPORT ON DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

Rev. W. D. H. Johnson read the following report:

In the work of evangelization, God has given us an agency of vast and peculiar power in the printing press, and we recognize in the work and its results of the American Baptist Publication Society the overruling providence and blessing of the great Head of the Church, and commend that agency most earnestly to the sympathies, prayers and support of the churches of our Association; and as a means of direct communication with the churches of the great Northwest, the *Standard* should be recognized as a power for good of surpassing influence; while in some localities the *Central Baptist* and *Baptist Flag* will be found of great value as denominational agencies. We also commend the *Baptist Review*, a quarterly of great "ability, vigor and excellence," to those whose means allow them to indulge in luxuries.

Adopted after remarks by W. D. H. Johnson, G. Kline and W. F. Rainey.

ON RESOLUTIONS.

The committee presented for consideration the following:

In view of the clear and scriptural statement of the nature and relation of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, the necessary precedence of the first to the second, as contained in the tract by A. C. Kendrick, D. D., of Rochester, N. Y., on this subject —

RESOLVED, That the following paragraphs be printed in the Minutes for the instruction, comfort and establishment of our members, whose earnest attention we hereby call thereto.

"For myself I do not see how a candid and careful survey of the language and usage of the New Testament can allow us to doubt that the injunction of our Lord did most distinctly and unequivocally place baptism in advance of the communion. Three things concur in forcing me to this conclusion: the nature of the two rites, the command of the Lord, and the practice of the Apostles.

"What is the baptism of the New Testament? It is the act by which the new-born believer outwardly and symbolically puts off his body of sin and puts on Christ; by which he professedly dies to the world, and rises to and with Christ in a spiritual resurrection. It is the assumption, by the new-born child of God, of the badge of sonship and discipleship—the act by which he formally, publicly, solemnly enrolls himself among the followers of the Redeemer.

"Where, then, does it properly come? I answer, it follows immediately upon that act of faith by which he has allied himself to the Redeemer. It has its fixed and definite place in the believer's life. It stands at the threshold; it belongs to the starting point of life, and nowhere else. It is to be performed once, and once for all. It is not a duty of a professed believer; it is the specific outward mode in which its subject becomes a professed believer.

"And what is the communion? It is the professed disciple's recognition, from time to time, of that death which brings him life, and of Him who suffered it. It is the Church's standing mode of declaring to an unbelieving world her faith in her unseen Lord—of rekindling, through affecting visible symbols, her memory of His self-sacrificing love, and her hope of His glorious reappearing. It is in its nature designed for repetition—to be done over and over again—the frequently repeated spiritual banquet of the Lord's house: 'This do, so often as ye do it in memory of me.'

"The difference in the nature of the two ordinances thus fixes their relation to each

other. The one stands at the gateway of the believer's course; it is done once for all, and never repeated. It is his act of enlistment, of consecration, and its proper significance would be destroyed, either by postponement or by repetition. The other is the prerogative of the professed and living Christian; it is part of the rich provision made by the Lord of the way to refresh his spirit and cheer the toil and burden of his pilgrimage.

"In accordance, now, with the nature of the rites, is our Savior's command. Where has He placed baptism? On whom has He enjoined it? 'Go, disciple all the nations, baptizing them in the name, etc. 'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.' Nothing can be more explicit than this language. It couples in indissoluble union faith and baptism; the faith preceding, as the essential act—the baptism following, as the commanded and obligatory symbol.

"And how did the Apostles interpret their Lord's command? Were there a single record of apparent departure from its obvious requirements, we might hesitate in our judgment. But there is not one. 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, for the remission of sins.' 'Who can forbid water, that these should not be baptized, who have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?' 'Lo, here is water,' said the just-converted eunuch, 'what doth hinder me to be baptized?' 'And * * * he baptized him.' 'He washed them from their stripes, and was baptized, and all his house straightway;' and such is the unbroken tenor of the New Testament testimony. Baptism appears everywhere as the new-born believer's mode of testifying his faith in Christ; of declaring his discipleship; of turning his back on his former life of sin, and of dedicating himself henceforth to a life of devotion to Christ

"When, then, we are asked whether Christ has commanded that baptism should precede admission to the Lord's table, we answer unhesitatingly that he has. If we are asked where, we reply, in every instance in which he has given the command, either directly or indirectly, that we be baptized at all. He has made it the first act consequent upon and declaratory of the repenting sinner's acceptance of him as a Savior. He has placed it at the head of those acts which mark him as an acknowledged follower of the Redeemer. He has placed it there, and nowhere else. To have formally and in terms stated that baptism must precede communion would have been utterly gratuitous. It precedes it by its distinctive nature, and the place which the Lord has assigned to it in the regular Christian life. Baptism precedes communion as necessarily as the Roman soldier's sacramentum—his military oath—preceded his discharging a soldier's duties and receiving a soldier's pay."

Adopted after an earnest discussion, in which brethren J. W. Harris, Lee Wait, W. C. Harvey, J. R. Barbee and G. Kline took part.

2d Resolution. RESOLVED, That at the suggestion of Bro. H. R. Clissold, of Chicago, State Baptist Sunday School Missionary, we appoint an Associational Sunday School Superintendent, with whom Bro. Clissold may correspond, and through whom he may co-operate in building up our schools.

Passed. Prayer by L. Mitchell. Adjourned to 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

SATURDAY, 3 P. M.

After the usual devotional services, the Association proceeded to business. It was voted to return our cordial thanks to the members and friends of Mount Nebo Church for their warm-hearted hospitality.

REPORT ON HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Prof. J. B. White said that instead of submitting an extended report on the Missionary Union, or American Baptist Home Mission Society, or Woman's Work in Missions, the committee offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the success that has attended our national missionary operations during the past year call for devout gratitude to the Lord of the harvest, and for renewed efforts for the advancement of His reign till His "will shall be done on earth as in heaven."

Prof. White supported the resolution in a speech of much interest, and was succeeded by Sisters Ellen Whiteside, L. Mock and Susan Perry on woman's part in the great work. Bro. Kline made some remarks for Mrs. Kline, who could not be present, and then proposed the singing of Miss S. P. Pearce's hymn, which was done with joyousness. The last stanza being particularly pertinent is here given. The report was adopted.

Hark, 'tis the voice of the Master
Sounds from the long ago:
"Lo, I am with you alway,"
Forth to the conflict go.
Strong in his strength unfailing,
Work till the earth shall ring
Wide with song of triumph,
Christ, our Lord, is King.

On the query of Liberty Church, a majority report was made by Bros. Sitton and Mitchell, and a minority report by Bro. Kline. A motion to refer both reports to a committee of three, who shall visit the church, and, if desired, counsel them, and then report next year, was carried. Rev. W. D. H. Johnson, Prof. J. B. White, Jas. M. Ray and Rev. J. R. Barbee were appointed said committee. The reports are placed in the chairman's hands.

PLACE OF MEETING NEXT YEAR.

By ballot, Union Avenue Church, Litchfield, was selected as the place of meeting next year.

PREACHER OF THE INTRODUCTORY SERMON.

Prof. J. B. White was elected preacher of the introductory sermon, and Rev. J. R. Barbee alternate.

PRINTING OF THE MINUTES.

It was voted to print 800 copies of the Minutes of this meeting, and that the clerks incorporate a digest of the letters, and superintend the publication and distribution of the Minutes.

It was resolved to continue the plan of Associational Missions adopted last year. Accordingly the following

EXECUTIVE MISSION BOARD

Was appointed: J. B. White, Chairman and Secretary; J. W. Harris, Treasurer; with James H. White, J. M. Ray and Lee Wait.

Missionary labor and contributions were then solicited.

Missionary Labor Pledged—Two weeks by W. D. H. Johnson; one week by W. C. Harvey, J. H. Jones, G. Kline, J. B. White, A. J. Sitton, J. R. Barbee.

Contributions—Smith Grove Church, in cash, $10.00, paid by J. W. Harris. Mount Nebo Church, W. Clouse paid $2.50, Aaron Long $2.00, T. Long $2.50, James M. Ray $2.50, unpaid. New Douglas, Sam'l Alsop $5.00, unpaid Litchfield Union Avenue Church, Mrs. Mock paid 50c.

Mrs. Whiteside paid 50c, W. L. Meisenheimer paid $5.00. Long Branch, William Case paid $1.00. Greenville, Mrs. F. K. Houghton $1.00, unpaid, Wm. R. Paine paid 50c. Hat collection, $4.15. This makes a total cash contribution of $24.15; unpaid subscriptions, $13.00.

FOR ASSOCIATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT,

Col. J. B. Reid, of Greenville, was elected, to whom all should write who desire any help in Sunday School work. The Committee on Religious Exercises announced Brethren J. R. Jones and A. J. Sitton as the preachers at night. After a closing prayer, the brethren gave each other the parting hand while singing, and adjourned, after the benediction, to meet on Friday before the first Sunday in September, at 10 o'clock, 1880, with the Union Avenue Baptist Church, Litchfield, Ill.

J. R. BARBEE, *Moderator.*
GEORGE KLINE, *Clerk.*
J. B. WHITE, *Asst. Clerk.*

SABBATH SERVICES.

A Sunday School meeting was held at 9:30 A. M., conducted by Bro. W. D. H. Johnson, during which interesting speeches were made by Sisters Whiteside and Mock, and Brethren J. H. Jones, J. B. Reid, and others. At 10:30, at the stand, Bro. W. C. Harvey preached to a very large congregation, from 1 Cor. 13, 13: "Faith as an abiding and working force." He was followed by Bro. J. R. Barbee, but in consequence of the thunder and indications of rain, the congregation dispersed before the conclusion of the sermon. At night Bro. J. R. Jones preached an able sermon from Joel ii. 9: "Salvation is of the Lord." A collection of $4.75 for Foreign Missions was taken up at this service.

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 4, 1879.

Churches.	Pastors.	Clerks.	Clerks' Postoffice.	Church Meeting—Saturday Before.	Increase.			Decrease.				Present Number.
					Baptism.	Letter.	Relation.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Erasure.	Death.	
Greenville	George Kline	Dr. C. H. Beatty	Greenville	1st Sun	4	4	1	9	21	17	1	112
Liberty	Ivy Irwin	J. M. Simpson	Walshville	1st "			1	1				63
Litchfield, Union Avenue	No Pastor	Ellen Whiteside	Litchfield	3d "	1	1	1	4				32
Long Branch	John H. Jones	Wm. Case	Litchfield	1st "	9	1	4	8	1			53
Mount Nebo	John H Jones	Aaron Long	Old Ripley	1st "			1		17			110
New Douglas	W. C. Harvey	Elias Jones	New Douglas	1st "	3	21	1	7				142
Oakland (Clyde)	No Pastor	L. F. Holden	Hornsby	4th Sat.								35
Pocahontas	No Pastor	Mary E. Bridgewater	Pocahontas	4th Sun							1	21
Prairie Grove	No Pastor	D. C. Richards	Raymond	1st "	9	3	4	1				41
Smith Grove	W. C. Harvey	J. M. Ditch	Greenville	2d "	23	4	3		2	1	1	94
Worden	J. R. Jones	S. C. Thompson	Worden	4th "			1					61
Eleven Churches	Grand Totals				49	15	17	29	12	18	8	815

MINISTERS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.

ORDAINED.

Barbee, J. R., Girard.
Harvey, W. C., Greenville.
Irwin, Ivy, Litchfield.
Johnson, W. D. H., Greenville.
Jones, John H., Gillespie.
Jones, J. R., Bunker Hill.
Kline, George, Greenville.
Long, Peter, Pocahontas.
Sifton, A. J., Walshville.
White, John B. Greenville.

LICENSED.

Clark, Allen B., New Douglas.
Hinckley, J. P., Litchfield
Long, Aaron, Old Ripley
Long, B , New Douglas.
Maxey, J. N., Old Ripley.
Montgomery, J. J., Litchfield.
Sturgen, Robert, New Douglas.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR VARIOUS OBJECTS.

CHURCHES.	For Minutes.....	Foreign Missions.	Home and State Missions.....	Ministerial Education.....	Pastor's Salary....	Church Expenses.	Other Objects.....	Total.....
Greenville	$ 3 00	$ 28 70	$ 17 85	$ 10 00	$ 640 00	$ 125 00	$ 10 00	$ 834 55
Liberty	1 25	.....	3 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 25
Litchfield, Union Avenue.	2 50	4 00	5 75	.....	80 00	50 00	.....	142 25
Long Branch	2 00	.....	1 00	.....	.....	2 00	.....	5 00
Mount Nebo	1 75	.....	5 00	.....	55 00	10 00	.....	71 75
New Douglas	3 00	.....	13 65	.....	125 00	30 00	.....	171 65
Oakland (Clyde)	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00
Pocahontas	1 00	.....	8 00	.....	.....	15 00	5 00	29 00
Prairie Grove	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00
Smith Grove	3 00	15 10	10 00	2 00	330 00	35 00	41 60	436 70
Worden	1 00	.....	.....	.....	8 00	.....	.....	9 00
Eleven Churches	$ 21 50	$ 47 80	$ 64 25	$ 12 00	$ 1,238 00	$ 267 00	$ 56 60	$ 1,707 15

☞The foregoing statistics, though fuller than for any previous year, are, in most cases, incomplete. The pastors and officers ought to see to it that full particulars of their statistics are reported to the Association, that thus full credit be obtained in the Minutes.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Schools.	Superintendents	Post Offices.	Officers and Teachers	Pupils.....	Average Attendance..	S. S. Papers tk'n Monthly	Conversions....	How many Months Held.	Expenses.....
Greenville	John B Reid ...	Greenville	15	145	91	300	5	12	$ 61 00
Litchfield, Union Avenue.	W. H. Fisher...	Litchfield	8	120	75	75	....	2	15 00
Long Branch	John W. Myers.	Litchfield	4	50	30	....	....	6	.....
Mount Nebo	John Charleson.	Greenville	8	65	48	40	....	6	6 40
New Douglas	Edward Jones..	New Douglas ...	6	75	38	75	....	12	13 10
Pocahontas	....	.....	4	30	...	24	....	6	.....
Smith Grove	J. T. Corrie....	Greenville	9	142	62	90	....	6	16 85
Oakland (Union)	.....	.....	....	....	30	....	..	6	....
Prairie Grove (Union)....	Good attendance	....	....	.....	.. .	.....	...	6	.....
Total, nine schools	.....	....	54	627	374	600	5	72	$ 112 35

NOTE.—Liberty and Worden churches report no schools. Will not some members of these churches talk the matter over, and organize anew, determined not to be congealed by the cold of the approaching winter? The Association looks to you to do this, and hopes to hear at Litchfield that you have sustained flourishing BAPTIST schools the year through.

☞Do not forget, dear Sunday School workers, to keep COMPLETE STATISTICS, and to REPORT THEM in your letters to the Association. IN the above, the Clerk had to guess at some of the items. Estimates are never as satisfactory as the EXACT figures.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY CIRCLES.

Women's Missionary Circles, in organized forms, exist now in connection with the Greenville Church, and with "Almira" College. These are in a flourishing condition, and once in three months unite in a public meeting. Each has its own monthly meetings. There is also one in Smith Grove Church, which has done something. One was organized in Union Avenue Church, Litchfield, and some money was raised; but, recently, the sisters of the two churches there have combined their forces and formed a Union Circle, from which much good is anticipated. At New Douglas a band of Helpers, under the lead of Mrs. Willis Cooper, has been started.

Miss A. L. Stevens, a returned missionary from Bassein, Burmah, in August, visited Greenville, New Douglas and Litchfield, and greatly encouraged the sisters in their work. Her visit to Smith Grove proved fruitless, because of a heavy rain, no services being held, and at Mount Nebo no meeting was held, because her appointment had not reached the Church properly. Let the motto be this year, sisters, More for Christ of service and means.

Affectionately,

MRS. GEORGE KLINE.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The business of each day shall be opened and closed with prayer. On the first day there shall be an introductory sermon by some person previously appointed, or his alternate, and should both fail, then a preacher shall be named, and a vote taken, for the occasion.

2. In the absence of the Moderator, the Clerk shall call the Association to order, and the oldest minister present shall officiate as Moderator until one is chosen.

3. Ministers and members of the Baptist churches present are invited to sit with us; and may speak on all subjects, but vote on none.

4. No subject shall be discussed without a motion and a second, unless introduced by a committee appointed for the purpose; and no person shall speak more than twice on any subject without leave of the Association.

5. All subjects shall come up in the order in which they stand, unless by vote or agreement they shall be made the order of a particular day or hour. In filling blanks, the largest sum, the highest number and the longest time shall be taken first.

6. Every motion shall be put in writing, and each member, when speaking, shall arise from his seat, address the Moderator, avoid all personal reflections, and if he depart from the subject he may be called to order.

7. The Moderator shall nominate all committees, unless otherwise ordered by the Association. A committee to arrange the religious exercises and designate the preachers shall be appointed immediately after organization; and a committee to arrange, digest and prepare the business; and such other committees as the Association may direct shall be announced as soon as the morning of the second day of the session.

8. The Constitution and Rules of Decorum shall be read immediately after being organized.

9. The Constitution of this Association, and the Rules of Decoram, shall be printed each year with the Minutes of this Association.

DIGEST OF LETTERS FROM THE CHURCHES.

GREENVILLE—Have no special ingathering to report. Though their financial strength has been considerably weakened by losses and removals, they have yet regularly sustained all their services and provided for their obligations. The pruning process of last year has been continued, believing this essential to the health and fruitfulness of the body. The meetings have been well attended

LIBERTY—There has been no change in their condition since last year, except that Rev. I. Irwin ministers to them.

LITCHFIELD—Union Avenue—Rejoice that God is with them; have no pastor; supplied recently by Rev. J. P. Hinckley; have largely attended and interesting prayer meetings.

LONG BRANCH—Had a precious revival which caused much joy. They desire to "contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints."

MOUNT NEBO—Still mourn their coldness Have reduced their strength numerically by excluding a number. Pray for better days. Have preaching by Rev. J. H. Jones two Sabbaths monthly. Hope for good from the meetings of the Association.

NEW DOUGLAS—Had a series of meetings conducted by their pastor, Bro. Harvey, which did much good to the membership.

OAKLAND—Are without a pastor, and seldom have preaching.

POCAHONTAS—Have harmony. Weakened by removals. Rev. Peter Long and Prof. J. B. White have occasionally preached for them. No pastor.

PRAIRIE GROVE—Had quite a revival under the joint labors of Bro. J. R. Barbee and Bro. Clark, but at present are without a pastor.

SMITH GROVE—Have had a glorious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, resulting in a large addition to the membership.

WORDEN—Statistics scarcely changed. Bro. J. R. Jones now serves them as pastor. No Sunday School.

DIRECTORY.

Associational Executive Mission Board—Prof. J. B. White, Chairman, Greenville.

American Baptist Missionary Union—S. M. Stimson, D D, Terre Haute, Ind., District Secretary.

Woman's Baptist Missionary Society for the West—Mrs. F. A. Smith, Treasurer, 71 Rand 19th street, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs A. L. Farr, Sandwich, Ill., State Secretary: Mrs. George Kline, Associational Secretary, Greenville, Ill.

General Association of Illinois—I. N. Hobart, D.D., Superintendent, 71 Randolph street, Chicago, Ill.

Almira College—Greenville, Ill., Mrs. F. K. Houghton, Principal.

Shurtleff College—Upper Alton, Ill., A. A. Kendrick, President.

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